

APPENDIX: Claims as pending upon entry of this amendment

9. (amended) An antibody to scavenger receptor protein type BI, wherein the scavenger receptor protein type BI [which] selectively binds to low density lipoprotein and to modified lipoprotein having the characteristics of acetylated low density lipoprotein, and is encoded by a nucleotide molecule hybridizing to SEQ ID Nos. 3 and 7.

10. The antibody of claim 9 further comprising a detectable label.

11. (amended) An isolated nucleic acid [sequence] molecule encoding [or regulating the expression of] a scavenger receptor protein type BI which selectively binds to low density lipoprotein and to modified lipoprotein having the characteristics of acetylated low density lipoprotein, which hybridizes to SEQ ID Nos. 3 and 7.

12. (amended) The [sequence] molecule of claim 11 expressed in cells selected from the group consisting of adipocytes, lung cells and liver cells.

13. (amended) The [sequence] molecule of claim 11 hybridizing under stringent conditions to a molecule with Sequence ID No. 3.

14. (amended) The [sequence] molecule of claim 13 [wherein] having the sequence [is] of Sequence ID No. 3 or a degenerate variant thereof.

15. (amended) The [sequence] molecule of claim 11 encoding [an amino acid sequence consisting essentially of] a protein with the amino acid sequence shown in Sequence ID No. 4.

Please cancel claims 16-18.

19. (amended) The [sequence] molecule of claim 11 which encodes [the] a human scavenger receptor.

20. (amended) The [sequence] molecule of claim 11 labeled with a detectable label.

21. (amended) [The sequence] A composition comprising the molecule of claim 11 encoding the scavenger receptor protein [further comprising] and an expression vector.

22. (amended) [The sequence] A composition comprising the composition of claim 21 [further comprising] and a host cell suitable for expression of the scavenger receptor.

44. (amended) A method for screening for a compound which alters the binding of scavenger receptor protein type BI, which is encoded by a nucleotide molecule hybridizing to SEQ ID Nos. 3 and 7 and which selectively binds to low density lipoprotein and to modified lipoprotein having the characteristics of acetylated low density lipoprotein, comprising

providing reagents for use in an assay for binding of low density lipoprotein or modified low density lipoprotein to the scavenger receptor protein,

adding the compound to be tested to the assay, and

determining if the amount of modified low density lipoprotein or low density lipoprotein which is bound to the scavenger receptor protein is altered as compared to binding in the absence of the compound to be tested.

45. (amended) The [assay] method of claim 44 wherein the assay includes a cell expressing the scavenger receptor protein and the compound is a nucleic acid [sequence] molecule which alters expression of the scavenger receptor protein.

46. (amended) The [assay] method of claim 44 wherein the compound is selected from a library of [naturally occurring or synthetic] compounds which are randomly tested for alteration of binding.

47. (amended) The [assay] method of claim 44 wherein the compound competitively inhibits binding of low density lipoprotein or modified lipoprotein having the characteristics of acetylated low density lipoprotein to the scavenger receptor protein.

48. (amended) A method for removing low density lipoprotein from patient blood comprising reacting the blood with immobilized scavenger receptor protein type BI, wherein the scavenger receptor protein type BI is encoded by a nucleotide molecule hybridizing to SEQ ID Nos. 3 and 7 and [which] selectively binds to low density lipoprotein and to modified lipoprotein having the characteristics of acetylated low density lipoprotein, under conditions wherein the low density lipoprotein is bound to the scavenger receptor.

49. (amended) A method for inhibiting uptake of lipoprotein or lipids by adipocytes comprising selectively inhibiting binding of lipoprotein to the scavenger receptor protein type BI, wherein the scavenger receptor protein type BI is encoded by a nucleotide molecule hybridizing to SEQ ID Nos. 3 and 7 and [which] selectively binds to low density lipoprotein and to modified lipoprotein having the characteristics of acetylated low density lipoprotein, under conditions wherein the low density lipoprotein is bound to the scavenger receptor.

50. (amended) A method for screening patients for abnormal scavenger receptor protein activity or function comprising

determining the presence of scavenger receptor protein type BI, wherein the scavenger receptor protein type BI is encoded by a nucleotide molecule hybridizing to SEQ ID Nos. 3 and 7 and selectively binds to low density lipoprotein and to modified lipoprotein having the characteristics of acetylated low density lipoprotein, and

[comparing the scavenger receptor for to determine] determining if the quantity present or the function of the receptor is equivalent to that present in normal cel